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THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1937

**A LIVING WAGE**

School teachers and those who are concerned with the welfare of the public schools are interested in a larger appropriation for schools for the next biennium.

One item in the school budget which needs at least a twenty per cent raise is teachers' salaries. The average yearly salary for white teachers in North Carolina is \$780 as compared with the national average of \$1200 for white and colored; a fifty per cent raise would not bring salaries up to the national average.

The pupils in North Carolina schools deserve teachers who are just as well prepared to teach as do the pupils in any school in the United States. There is not much inducement to select as a profession a job paying \$780 a year and spend years of time and thousands of dollars in preparation for that amount. One cannot criticize the well trained and experienced teacher for accepting a position in some other state or for even changing professions in order to get a living wage. The job of training future citizens should be important enough to demand a well trained personnel and at the same time should be respected enough to pay a living wage.

The increased cost of living last year makes an increase in salary necessary. The business men of Waynesville generally agree that clothing has advanced 15% to 20% within the last year and that the advance will likely be 25% by next fall; food has advanced 15% to 20%. Remember, that the school appropriation now must cover the next two years. If the price for the necessities of life has advanced 20% in the last year, what do you expect will be the advance within the next two years? A 20% raise in teachers' salaries now, would in effect, not be a raise, but a recognition of the advance in the cost of living. The increased salary would not go any farther than the salary received last year.

It is generally conceded that it is a good business policy to pay a living wage in any business. Teachers are only asking for a living wage.

**A COMMUNITY BUILDER**

There are but few communities in the state that are fortunate in having a Building and Loan Association as progressive and solvent as the Haywood Home Building and Loan Association of Waynesville.

A careful study of the financial statement as published in this paper today will prove that the Association is not only solvent, but is doing good work in enabling home owners to build their own homes.

The Association does not cater to speculation as do many financial organizations. The Building and Loan instead, is interested only in community development.

We are fortunate in having an organization in this community managed by such capable officers as have been in charge for the past few years, and some since the Association was first organized.

This has been queer weather.

In California, fruit growers are having to burn oil in their orchards to keep the cold from killing the trees, while in Georgia owners of peach orchards are putting fifty pound blocks of ice at the roots of the trees to keep them from blooming. If this rain doesn't soon stop, the orchard men of Haywood will have to hold umbrellas over their trees.

The business map of the month, as published in The United States News, shows that only Vermont does not have as good business as a month ago. All except two states show business to be much better. Vermont would be

**WANT PAY FOR PRAYER**

The Raleigh Ministerial Association sent a letter to the House of Representatives last week, asking that they appoint a paid House chaplain to offer the prayer each morning before that group of North Carolina law makers.

Speaker of the House, Gregg Cherry, deferred the matter, and for the present, the reading clerk, who is Dan Tompkins of Sylva, will lead the group with the Lord's prayer.

From what we can learn, there are 36 protestant churches in the city of Raleigh, and certainly, it does not seem that it would have worked a hardship on the ministers of the city to have taken turn about in going to the capitol once every 36 days and offering a public prayer without expecting pay.

It seems that the Raleigh Ministerial Association has tended to cheapen their association by making such an absurd request. Certainly they will not have the same influence over the members of the House by reason of their request of being paid for offering prayer.

No doubt it will all work out for the best, inasmuch as the members of the House will be conscious of the fact that now they will be supposed to repeat the Lord's Prayer, instead of listening to some man say "pretty words" in Biblical language, just for the money.

**A PROGRESSIVE TOWN**

Hazelwood voters expressed their views for better streets in no uncertain terms Tuesday, when they voted seven to one favoring the issuance of \$10,000 in bonds for street improvements.

The citizens of Hazelwood are up on their toes, so to speak. They readily realize that WPA and the other government agencies cannot continue to appropriate money for streets and other projects, so the board of aldermen of Hazelwood were quick to grasp the situation and passed an ordinance, backed overwhelmingly by the citizens, to put up \$10,000 and get WPA to donate \$20,000, thus giving \$30,000 for street improvements.

Present indications are that Hazelwood, although an industrial community, will before long, be one of the most beautiful towns in Western North Carolina. The citizens in our neighboring town are civic-minded to the point that they take much pride in their town.

**A MODERN AIRPORT IN W. N. C.**

Air travel has become so common in this country, that the average person hardly takes the time to listen to an air traveler describe experiences of sailing through the clouds.

Naturally, when air travel increases, there is a demand for larger and better landing fields, and airports. All of Western North Carolina should be proud of the airport which is now being completed between Asheville and Hendersonville.

The Asheville-Hendersonville airport is a WPA project, and when the job is completed, the airport will be one of the best in the south. Something like \$175,000 will be spent on the project before it is finished, according to those in charge.

Asheville contributed \$15,000, while Hendersonville and Henderson County, between them, gave a like amount. WPA set aside \$70,000 for the project, but an underestimate of the cost will necessitate about an additional \$50,000 to complete the job. The first appropriation was for \$109,000.

It is indeed fortunate that such an airport is available in this section. Many business men now resort to air travel, while a number of summer visitors travel in planes, in order that they can spend the week-ends in the mountains and be back at their business Monday morning.

As the world becomes more air-minded, we will see that the Asheville-Hendersonville airport will become a big factor in our business and tourist fields.

**NOT A SURPRISE**

The announcement that James Atkins has been re-appointed general manager of the Southern Methodist Assembly at Lake Junaluska, does not come as a surprise to those who know the type of programs he has given capacity audiences at the Lake for the past four years.

Mr. Atkins has had a number of major obstacles to overcome at the Lake, in order to make the Assembly a success. He did make them successful, and for that reason, if for no other, his re-appointment was expected.

**THEN AND NOW**

When President Roosevelt was inaugurated in March, 1933, the bank deposits of this nation totaled \$40,645,000,000. When he took the oath of office yesterday the estimated bank deposits were \$62,000,000,000. This so happens to be just one of the many contrasts that can be used to show what has been accomplished

**THE OLD HOME TOWN** by STANLEY



**Random SIDE GLANCES**

By W. CURTIS RUSS

As intimated in this column last week, I spent the week-end in Raleigh and Chapel Hill. At Chapel Hill I was only one of about 125 newspaper folks attending the Mid-Winter institute. But in Raleigh, I was just "Another fellow from back home."

It was only a matter of minutes, after reaching the capitol, until I was in company with Representative John Cabe.

Mr. Cabe was down in the mouth that morning, as it marked his tenth day in Raleigh and he hadn't seen the sun since arriving there. The murky weather was getting under his skin, but he seemed a bit cheered when informed that the same weather prevailed in good old Haywood.

It was from Hugh Leatherwood that I learned that Haywood's representative gets up earlier than any member of the North Carolina Legislature. From all sources, it seems that Mr. Cabe arises about six each morning, and has his dinner right about 12 each day, and retires reasonably early.

Of course, Senator McKee is easy to spot in the hotel lobby, as well as on the floor of the Senate, since she is the only woman in the Senate this year. There is only one in the House, Mrs. Chas. Hutchins, of Burnsville.

Mr. Cabe has seat number nine—up on the front row, just to the left of the speaker's desk. At least he is near enough to let them know that he wants two liquor stores in Haywood county, as well as to abolish the absentee vote law, and change the board of commissioners back to three members with a full time chairman.

It does not take long to get up with a group of politicians if you are headed in the general direction of Raleigh. No sooner had I boarded the train than in walked W. E. Brees, who is WPA director of this district. With him was J. H. Yelton, of Hendersonville, who is strongly mentioned as a possible appointee to the state highway commission, and also E. C. Greene, who is being groomed for chairman of the road group. Then there was a Mr. Coffey, of Lenoir, who heads the Democrats in his county, and operates a large furniture plant on the side, and at Morganton Miss Beatrice Cobb, National committee-woman, got aboard—of course she talked newspapering, but mingled in plenty of politics during the course of the evening.

Not to be outdone by some of Western North Carolina's leading politicians, in came Governor and Mrs. Dave Sholtz, of Florida. He is the one who failed to put the woman mayor of Daytona Beach out of office a few days before his term of office expired. By way of mention, Mrs. Sholtz resembles in many ways, the much talked-of Mrs. Wally Simpson.

Hugh Leatherwood took time off to introduce me to a number of the members of the Legislature, all of whom seemed to be so nice that I just wonder how they could get so crossed up at times on matters, such as sales tax, reducing automobile tags, etc. But from what I can learn they certainly do cross up and in no uncertain terms.

The last I saw of Mr. Cabe, he was on the front steps of the Capitol. He was chewing the end of a long cigar—similar to "Banker" Jim Boyd—and looking longingly at the sky to see if by chance the sun was going to shine.

**Stimulants and Narcotics**

Caffeine is classified as a stimulant; nicotine as a poisonous alkaloid; morphine as a narcotic; alcohol as a stimulant and when taken in large doses

**LETTERS to the Editor**

Editor Mountaineer: I appreciated the very cordial Christmas greetings in your columns, and really took them as quite personal, since I am perhaps among the most remote of your readers. I have noted with interest the several happenings since I left Waynesville last July.

I was very proud of the fine descriptive account of President Roosevelt's visit to North Carolina. I could see all as it happened, and I could just see how epic and span Waynesville must have been—(only I was sorry that somebody insinuated that the President did not get a real rousing ovation!) Yes, the streets must have been clean—which again leads me to ask, as I have often asked before: "Is there no way to keep people from throwing trash on the streets?" Just who is it that throws trash down, anyway? I had thought it was the idle men, until one day I saw a beautiful young lady toss a paper cup from an auto. And what class of people is it that spits on the streets? When I came away there was no waste boxes or containers of any kind—so—where are the folks going to dispose of their trash? At least three containers are needed on Main street—and a good stiff ordinance that is really enforced.

And perhaps by that time we could persuade people not to trample the court house lawn to death!

I want to sanction what Uncle Abe and others have said about men hanging around town in their filthy clothes, smelling to high heaven. Outsiders criticize our town and we ourselves do not enjoy the sight. With such quantities of cheap soap and water the women should keep their men folk's clothes cleaner—for them to loaf in.

And since Waynesville is a health resort, our people should break themselves of the bad habit of claiming to have had colds—even when they are perfectly well! It is only a habit and a most universal one at that. Ask one hundred people: "How are your family today?" and ninety-five will say "Pretty well—except for colds." (With proper care there is little excuse for colds anyway!)

There should be a better fire works law. Make all the harmless noise possible on the Fourth of July, but why, oh, why, do our people want to celebrate the birthday of the Saviour with fire works? It is outlandish, if not downright heathenish. Parents, teachers and merchants hold the key to that situation.

I rejoiced as much as most Methodists when the debt on Lake Junaluska was paid.

San Francisco, Cal. Jan. 9, 1937.

**19 Years Ago in Haywood**

(From the files of Jan. 24, 1918) Lebo Massie, of Orlando, is spending a few days here.

W. C. Garrison and son went to Weaverville on Saturday to visit relatives.

W. G. Byers, who is teaching school at East Fork, was here Saturday on his way to his home in Clyde.

Mayor Robert E. Hipps and Attorney J. T. Horney were here on business Saturday from Canton.

David Miller, who is in the supply department of the engineering corps, at Camp Sevier was at home last week for a few days.

E. P. Martin says a farmer offered to sell him a dozen eggs at a nickel a piece but he turned the purchase down on the ground that no egg is worth a nickel.

Mrs. W. F. Swift, wife of Captain Swift, who has been with her parents about a week, expects to join her husband next week at Newport News, where he has lately been transferred, and put in command of a machine gun company.

Administrator Page is giving instructions at length about flour regulations. If all towns are like Waynesville, there need be little said. Only one merchant in town has any flour this morning, and his supply will soon vanish, and the local mills have not made the required changes yet to fit the government regulations.

At the spelling match last Friday night pulled off by Manager Glenn Miller, of the Wayneswood Theatre for the benefit of the local hospital, J. E. Carraway won when his opponent went down on the word "scurrilous!" The words to be spelled were shot from Webster's old blue back speller, as from a French gun, by Prof. E. J. Robeson, superintendent of the graded school.

Soy beans were selling this week in the state for \$2.75 a bushel. They have advanced to \$3.02. This is sufficient to show the trend in prices of this crop. It should be the aim of every farmer in Haywood county to have some of this crop growing on his farm. Soy beans no longer an experiment in this county.

laska was met. That is one of the very finest enterprises that ever came to the county.

I enjoyed Mrs. Gwyn's great "escapade" in securing Christmas holly also her fine description of October in the mountains. Amid all the splendors of the Great West I did not see what I called autumn. Nowhere in all my rounds in these United States have I ever seen anything that approaches autumn in the Carolina mountains. Superb scenery elsewhere of course—but I'm speaking of autumn—which sets me thinking: Instead of so many local fairs why could not Western North Carolina capitalize on an "Autumn Festival?" It would at least sound lots prettier than the age-worn "County Fair" and to my mind be made more effective.

With co-operation of travel agencies providing Fall Excursions to the mountains, and with others coming by automobile it could be made as attractive and profitable an outing as that at Magnolia Gardens. Farmers with roadside markets could no doubt sell many bushels of their products to people who wished to stock up for winter. I am sure such a project would bring people and money to our mountains.

But as a loyal trader-at home I want to join the "It Ain't Right" crusade! I once saw a woman bringing home some thread and cotton batting for quilts, which she had bought in another county. Then at the next club meeting I announced that, for those who persisted in buying elsewhere, a certain place in another city was advertising canned rattle snake meat, although to this day I do not know what its uses are! Sincerely yours,

MRS. W. T. CRAWFORD, San Francisco, Cal. Jan. 9, 1937.

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